

Congressman Jesse Jackson, Jr., today said, "The Jon Burge Report was issued today and its findings are devastating. It concluded that Chicago Police officers under former Commander Jon Burge tortured confessions out of suspects in the '70s and '80s, but the statute of limitations has run its course and therefore no one can be prosecuted. The report stated, 'It is our judgment that the evidence in those cases would be sufficient to establish guilt beyond a reasonable doubt,' but added that 'regrettably' there is no way to 'avoid the effect of the statute of limitations.' That is truly outrageous!

"It further stated that the current Mayor Richard M. Daley, then Cook County States' Attorney, knew the terrible truth on the basis of written communication transmitted to him, but did nothing.

"Was the States' Attorney culpable? Should Mayor Daley be held accountable? Absolutely! He should be held accountable, if not by the law, then certainly politically. Law enforcement officers subverted the constitution and the law, tampered with evidence, coerced confessions and obstructed justice. Those are all serious crimes. If people knew then what we know now, Daley would never have been elected Mayor in the first place. At best the Mayor ignored the facts, at worst there is culpability. He must now give a full explanation of his actions as States' Attorney regarding this matter.

"There also needs to be an investigation to determine whether or not the process itself that delayed these revelations were deliberate in order to allow the statute of limitations to expire," concluded Jackson.